

REMARKS

Claims 91-94, 100-108, 110-113, and 133-144 are pending in this application. Claims 97 and 109 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In the Office Action dated July 10, 2008, the Examiner stated that claims 97 and 109 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 91 and 103 are amended, incorporating the elements of claims 97 and 109, respectfully. As such, claims 91 and 103 are patentable. Dependent claims 92-94, 100-102, 104-108, and 110-113 incorporate the features of the independent claims on which the dependent claims are based. Therefore, the dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as independent claims 91 and 103. Entry of these amendments after final is respectfully requested.

Claims 133-144 are new. Claim 133 is based on claim 103. Claim 133 includes the feature of "the controller being programmed to change a maintenance schedule of the gaming unit in response to the time signal." Applicants believe that claim 133 should be allowable without further prosecution as this claim recites features that have apparently overcome the rejections based on the cited art. Claims 134-142 are based on claims 104-108 and 110-113, respectively. Applicants believe that these claims should also be allowable without further prosecution. Claims 143 and 144 are based on elements deleted from claim 103. Applicants also believe that these claims should be allowable without further prosecution.

Conclusion

The claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance of the claims at the earliest possible date is requested.

If prosecution of this application can be assisted by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorneys at (510) 663-1100.

Applicants do not believe that any additional fees are required to facilitate the filing of this Amendment. However, if it is determined that such fees are due, please charge such additional fees to Deposit Account No. 504480 (Order No. IGT1P492C1).

Respectfully submitted,

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